

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR CY GR TU

SUBJECT: GREEK PUBLIC REACTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF
TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE

1. SUMMARY: GREEK PRESS FEB 14 DENOUNCED TURKISH
CYPRIOT PROCLAMATION OF FEDERAL STATE WITH EDITORIALS
SCORING UN FOR FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT RESOLUTIONS AND USG
AND HMG FOR PERMITTING TURKISH DECISION. DURING
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE FEB 13 OPPOSITION LEADERS
CONDEMNED TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND GOT WITH ANDREAS PAPANDREOU
BLAMING THE US. END SUMMARY.

2. NEWS COVERAGE OF TURKISH CYPRIOT ANNOUNCEMENT GAVE
PROMINENCE TO GREEK OFFICIAL CONDEMNATION (ATHENS 1241),
AND DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN ATHENS AND NICOSIA. NEWSPAPERS
UNDERScoreD PROVOCATIVE AND "BLACKMAIL" NATURE OF TURKISH
CREATION OF NEW STATE, BUT PRESS REPORTING WAS NOT
BELLICOSE. EDITORIALS DEPLORED POSITIONS OF USG AND UN
WHICH PERMITTED TURKS TO CREATE NEW FAIT ACCOMPLI AND
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ACCUSED HMG OF SUPPORTING TURKISH ACTION. LEFTIST NEWSPAPERS

COMMENTED THAT NEW TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE WAS PLAN OF NATO
AND ANGLO-AMERICANS.

3. DURING EVENING SESSION FEB 13 PARLIAMENT
INTERRUPTED AGENDA TO DISCUSS CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS. CU/NF
LEADER MAVROS LABELLED ACTION AS DESIGNED TO EFFECT
PARTITION. PASOK'S CHAIRMAN ANDREAS PAPANDREOU CALLED ON
GOC TO SUSPEND INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND FOR GOG TO TAKE
RECOURSE IMMEDIATELY TO UNSC. PAPANDREOU ADDED "THE
GOG SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SUSPEND BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH
THE US, SHOULD CANCEL THE PROJECTED MEETING BETWEEN THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND SHOULD EVEN
RETALIATE THRU NATO AND US BASES IN GREECE."
EDA LEADER ILIOU CALLED THE TURKISH DECISION AN AMERICAN
PLAN FOR CYPRUS UNDERTAKEN BY GOT IN COLLUSION WITH NATO
AND THE BRITISH. HE SAID THE NEW ENTITY DESTROYED THE
INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. AT
SOCIAL GATHERING EARLIER MAVROS TOLD NEWSMEN GREECE HAD
ENTERED INTO ITS GRAVEST PERIOD AND ITS FOREIGN POLICY
REQUIRED TOTAL REAPPRAISAL.

4. DEMONSTRATIONS PROTESTING THE TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE
ARE SCHEDULED BY STUDENT/YOUTH GROUPS IN AFTERNOONS
FEB 14 AND 15. ATHENS POLICE CONFIRMED PRECAUTIONS
WOULD BE TAKEN TO SAFEGUARD EMBASSY AND RESIDENCE.
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